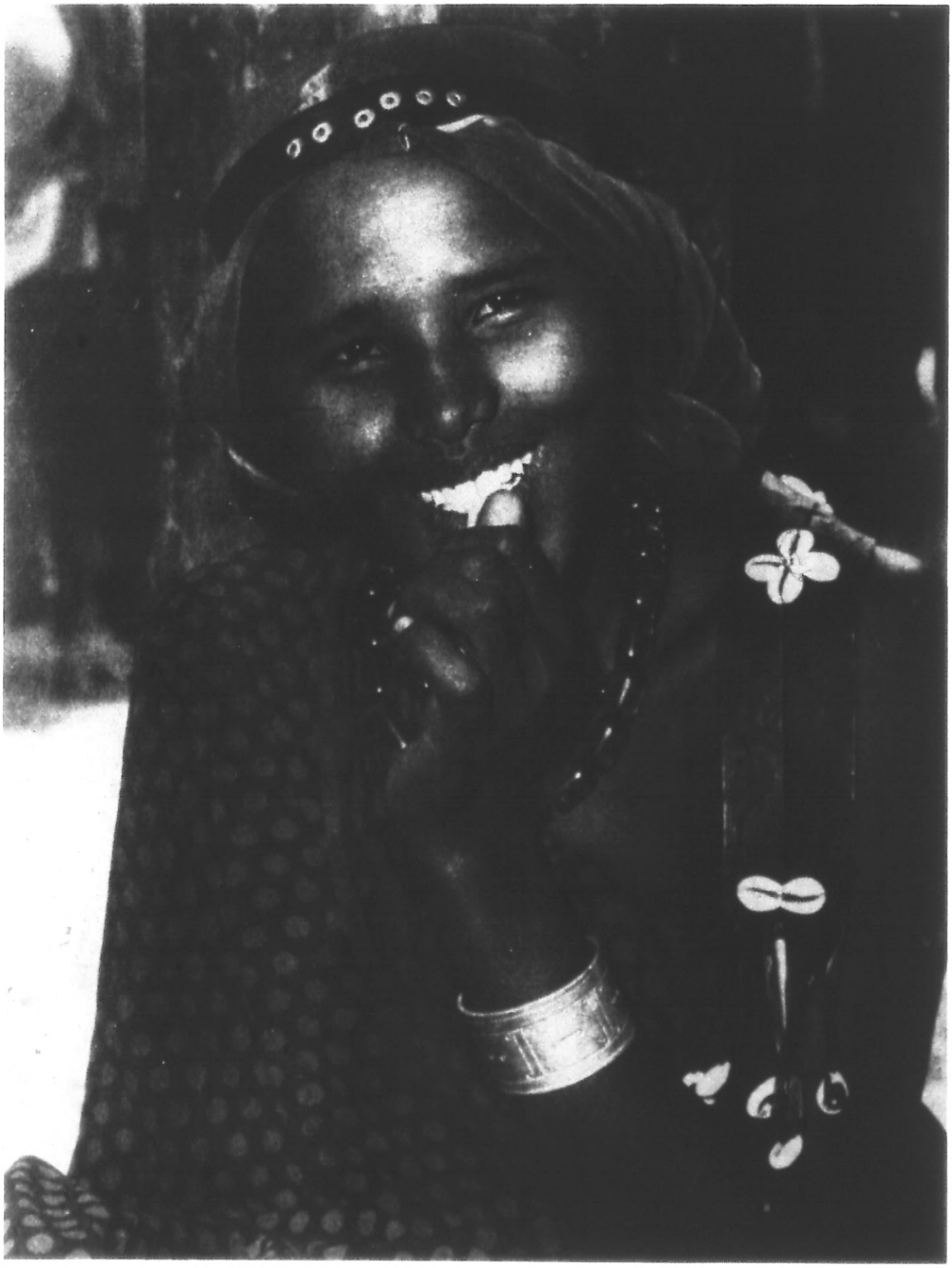
NEW ERA

OCTOBER

1971



Our beloved leader Jaalle Gen. Mohamed Siad Barre, President of the SRC.

«The selection of our capital as a venue for the meeting of Heads of State and Governments of East and Central African countries naturally gives us honour and pride.»

jaalle Gen. Siyad July 1, 1971

NEW ERA

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EDITORIAL

PACEMAKERS

MOGADISHU is the venue this October for the Conference of Heads of State of East and Central African States. Although the Conference has no formal agenda it has achieved a great deal in the annual meetings that have been held since 1966 — and it is an achievement that the usefulness of any organisation is determined.

The Heads of State have examined problems of far-reaching impact covering a wide range of subjects in which they are mutually interested. We in Somalia are concerned primarily with four major areas of activity that fall under the purview of the East and Central African Heads of State. These are Communications, Transport, Trade and Agriculture.

We have been particularly anxious to extend our communications network with sister African States, as the policy we pursue today is more outward looking under the Revolution than ever before, and the improvement of communications is immensely important to better understanding between African States and the acceleration of development programmes. Communications obviously has a key role in the uplift of individual states and of Africa as a whole.

Somalia is currently concentrating upon road development within its borders, and this naturally accents plans for better transport facilities. What we would like to see is an extension of road links between the countries that constitute the East and Central African group. Some progress has been made in this direction between some of the member states now meeting in Mogadishu. A highway linking Nairobi to Addis Ababa is now under construction, and another is proposed that will traverse the Continent from east-coast Kenya to west-coast Nigeria.

We feel that there is room to initiate at the October Summit in Mogadishu moves that will specifically focus attention upon the possibility of a link-up with Somalia on some of these inter African arteries. There is no doubt that the unimpeded movement of transport in all directions across Africa will greatly speed the Continent's economic growth and bring about a bigger volume of trade and commerce between sister African states.

Trade is the third area in which we would like to see definite proposals emerge for the exchange of goods and services among east, central and other African States. The Trade Fair now in progress in Somalia will give our visitors a glimpse of what we produce in range and quality that could be exported to their respective countries, and we hope that they will take this opportunity of examining those products that are of special interests to them.

We are convinced that if some consideration is given to specific types of transportation development — the Tanzam Railway is a case in point — some kind of phased transportation programme can be worked out in collaboration between member states whereby an Africa-wide network can be devised which provides links to each country by road, lake and river steamer services and railways, not excluding, of course, the important air services that member countries operate individually, but which could be greatly extended.

All Africa is today moving towards more sophisticated forms of development which our leaders in their farsight and foresight can bring to reality in the shortest possible time. It is in this context that we see the Mogadishu Summit of East and Central African leaders as the peace-making for development in the seventies. The hopes of the people in all the countries whose delegates are meeting in our capital, are centred upon the realisation of programs that will bring them new benefits. Our hope is that Somalia will emerge from the present Summit in projects in which she has a more definite involvement than before.

THE MASS – MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND ITS ROLE IN THE NEW ERA

Jaalle Ismail Ali Abokor, Vice President and Secretary of Information and National Guidance.

The written word plays a vital role in any revolutionary society. It is the basis of sound thought and eliminates panic to correct attitudes. Therefore, the Revolution has set itself to educate the masses through this medium to banish illiteracy and give all our people the benefits of our culture.

If we take thought as a reflection of the actual material reality, then we find that what is usually orally uttered by a various group of people, is an expression of a social life which these groups of people actually live.

There is no doubt that by words, whether these words are written, spoken, broadcast or depicted in pictures, we can clarify our objectives and aspirations for the present or the future and especially do so in such things which represent the new aspects of our social life on the one hand, while we may put the past to trial with all its values and concepts, on the other.

During this revolutionary era, much responsibility in this field rests upon the shoulders of the Somali information media. This responsibility aims at changing the backward past which the country had inherited from the moulds of colonialism and the reactionary leadership which followed. It is doubtless that these reactionary regimes had been working for the stupification and the destruction of the society to lead it along a dead end road. On the other hand, they were also working, to create frictions among the Somali masses, on a colonial pattern, to have them divided into tribal, cultural and sectorial backgrounds.

The Ministry of Information and National Guidance, has during this revolutionary period embarked upon such activities to confront all those after-affects to guide the Somali nation towards a real and lively orientation against the corrupt system anarchy and backwardness.

The revolutionary orientation of the people against imperialist activities were and still are constantly aimed at regaining their golden age which went by for good. They do so through their collaborators among whom are reactionaries responsible for counter-revolutions... which has been abortive twice now.

Whether it is in broadcasting, the press, the films and visual section or the National Theatre which offers theatrical shows and plays, revolutionary and popular songs, the Ministry of Information and National Guidance did not spare any effort in transforming our realities. We very well realise that this requires great efforts on the basis of true relationships with the Somali people who are characterised by an active revolutionary spirit.

There is also no doubt that we have before us the responsibility of translating the feelings of the nation and its just demands into the realisation of over-all unity, freedom and socialism and also in fighting harmful ideas which are traces and residues of colonialism in all its forms.

The Somali people with its excellent consciousness follows, step by step, all the African and Asian events and indeed all the world problems which the revolutionary information media offers them.

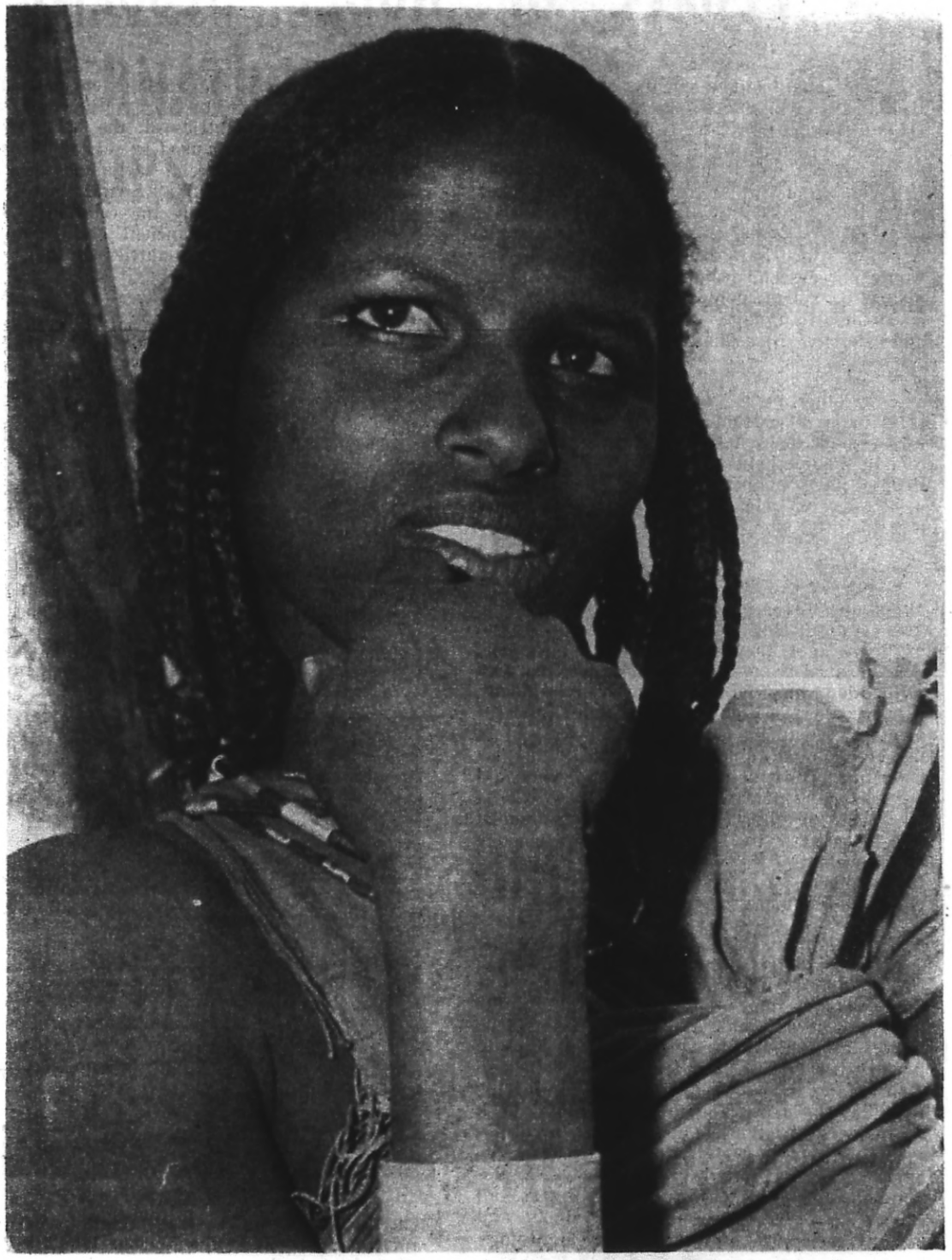
The stage which we have reached today shows the difference between what we used to be, whether that was in the colonial era or in the reactionary one that followed it; and despite the fact that we do not consider ourselves to have achieved the progress we aspire to in the field of information and national guidance; and despite the fact that we live in a transitional period, yet by our experiences during the past two years whose anniversary we celebrate we were able to pass a stage, over-come the backwardness and achieve a measure of progress; by relying on ourselves and on our own efforts.

The struggle of the toiling and the down-trodden masses of the people should be understood not as a trade and the revolution as professionalism but the struggle as meaning the faith in and adherence to the cause of the people.

The cause of our Somali people today is the revolt against the old, with all its residues and left-overs and its replacement with the new and the achievement of the aspiration for whose sake there was the struggle and the revolution. It is the realisation of the national democratic revolution as a stage and the realisation of the socialist revolution as a strategic goal, for the masses of the workers, the peasants, the poor, the soldiers and the revolutionary intellectuals.

Somali writers, the broadcasters, the artists and the actors, must confront colonialism and reaction, the members of the counter-revolution and the psychological war to which our revolution is meeting in our country and which actually depend upon long-term planning.

Our people c e l e b r a t i n g these days the second anniversary of the inception of its Glorious Revolution, which is considered as the greatest event in East Africa in the twentieth century; believes that the future belongs to the workers engaged in the building of their country economically, socially and culturally and that victory belongs to whoever achieves the greatest production on these fields and who, in short, believe that he who does not move does not achieve progress.



A nomadic girl musing over a bright future.

A PEOPLE OF NOBLE—DESCENT

The constituent elements of the Somali People are clear enough to confute the imperialistic assumptions and reactionary pretences inspired by colonialists's slander and calumny which would render the Somali People alien. In fact it is the origin from which many other tribes have issued, tribes which live at present in the north, east and centre of the continent. A people which have their own ancient history would not descend from other peoples. In fact history considers; noble; any people who have a common language, religion and traditions and who live in a limited geographical zone.

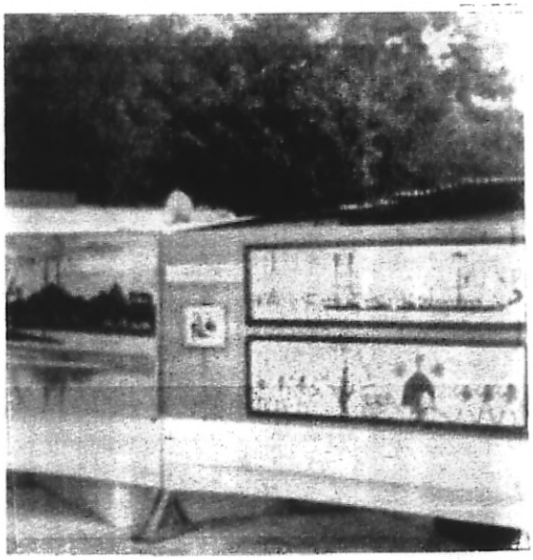
No other races, whether they be coming from the sea or from the interior of the continent had their marks or influence on the Somali People. On the contrary the Somali People have maintained their homogeneousness and have defended their existence and national entity along thousands of years.

How we can actually determine — on clear and indisputable scientific basis — the nobleness and ancient history of our people and to prove that they have existed since time immemorial. Every nation has got its own civilization, inspired by its own environment. If a people was subject to dispotic governments, it would have a civilization directed at the erection of high buildings and stable architectural constructions as those which could be seen in ancient Rome, Athens and China but, if the people were addicted to nomadism and led a hard life, exposed to the inclemency of the weather, they would be inclined to practise commerce as was the case in Arab countries and Somalia.

This limited space would not suffice to review the national history of our country. But this does not impede us from putting in the light our new Somali nation, seen in its true history and integrity which imperialism and its devoted reactionary forces have tried to deform and who still refuse to recognize the fact that the history of our people dates back to thirty generations. Our integral archeological heritage is waiting to be taken as the object of special interest of our glorious Revolution, even if it becomes necessary to call experts in order to eliminate any doubt and for the assistance of international archeology to prepare a clearer and more illustrated history for our future generations and finally will become able to establish the Somali nationalism on solid and indisputable basis.

In olden times the Somali people used to export medical herbs to Greece, Phoencia, Egypt and other countries of the mediterranean Sea. The Romans used to send their ships to Somalia for commercial exchange. The best way to know the national Somali history in ancient times is to study the relations which Somalia held with the ancient civilization of Africa, Asia and other countries of the Mediterranean basin, particularly Greece and Rome. These relations could be strong with a certain state, elastic with another and would be in an unsettled condition between consistency and elasticity; with still another certain state. Yet through the study of these relations (and other documents) we can form a clear conception or an introduction to the general history of Somalia in the past centuries.

So it is quite imperative for us, we Somalis, to study and get acquainted with all that which was written about us by others, whether it be written on their monuments or whether it be included in their archeological heritage. This will help us to find out the binding relations which bind Somalia to other nations of ancient civilization and how they regarded us as a people and as a country.



This picture shows the trade relations between ancient Egypt and the ancient land of Punt (Somalia today).
(from our national museum)

SOMALIA IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Indo-chinese delegation presents a vase made of a destroyed U. S. plane to Vice-President Jaale Ismail Ali Aboker.

DURING 1971, one of the many delegations to visit Somalia put the views of the Indo-Chinese people on the situation on Vietnam and Laos.

Concerned primarily to inform the people of Somalia about the Vietnam conflict, the delegation took the opportunity to strengthen their ties of friendship with the emergent peoples of Africa.

At the end of their visit to Somalia, the delegation leader issued a wide-ranging statement on their aims and their contacts with our leaders and commented on the problems and projects they encountered in Somalia.

We publish on these pages the full text of the Indo-Chinese statement which provides a lucid and informative background to events in Vietnam and Laos.

«During our stay in Somalia, we have the opportunity to meet many representa-

the Indo-Chinese delegation at Jowher.

The Sugar Factory workers at Jowhar receive the Indo-Chinese delegation.

INDOCHINESE DELEGATION STRENGTHENS TIES WITH SOMALIA

WAR DIVIDES PEOPLES OF VIETNAM

tives of the Somali people, members of the Supreme Revolutionary Council and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Somalia. We are deeply impressed by their frankness, simplicity and sympathy for peoples fighting against imperialism. We think that these features are characteristics of leaders who are close to the masses. The President of the Supreme Revolutionary Council, Jaale Major General Mohamed Siad Barre, in particular gave us vivid impressions with his simple manners and deep comprehension of the ardent aspirations of the people of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia for independence, unity and peace.

We have witnessed the economic progress made by Somalia since the October 21, 1969, Revolution. This progress has enabled the Somali people to take initial steps in building an independent economy. A most remarkable thing is that this progress has been achieved thanks to the revolutionary enthusiasm of the Somali people, enthusiasm which has made possible the fulfilment of many crash programmes based on the voluntary work of thousands and thousands of men and women. No doubt, the Somali people by further developing their Revolutionary enthusiasm and fully exploiting the rich resources of their country, will make greater achievements in their economic construction and in their endeavour to raise their living standards. Their laborious hands will surely shape out a bright future for themselves and their children.

THE realities of Nixon's two and half years administration show that on the problem of Indo-China, the American imperialists remain very obstinate: They have not yet renounced their policy of aggression and still persist in continuing, intensifying and extending the aggressive war against the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

In Vietnam, they try to shift a part of the burden of the war on the shoulders of the puppet army with their «Vietnamization» policy, which results in substance, in changing the colour of the skin of the corpses. By repatriating some 200,000 or 300,000 American soldiers, they try to reduce the scale of the war, and its human losses and military expenditure to a limit «acceptable» to the American people and to turn this hated war into a «forgotten war» so that they can drag it on idefinitely and keep South Vietnam under constant Us military occupation.

But this policy of «Vietnamization» of the war has met with bitter failures. American human losses keep on increasing; military expenditure remains very high. The American people's opposition to the war gets stronger and stronger; and Nixon's administration is meeting with greater and greater difficulties on all fields, at home and abroad.

To save this «Vietnamization» policy from total bankruptcy, Nixon has extended the war to Cambodia and intensified the war against Laos. But in Cambodia and Laos, the American aggressors have also suffered bitter defeats. The whole Nixon doctrine of using the Indo-Chinese against the Indo-Chinese has proven to be doomed to total bankruptcy. Of course the movement of opposition to the American aggressive war in the United States and in the world is getting more powerful than ever.

Faced to this situation, Nixon has resorted to all kinds of «peace» manoeuvres. Their stand is quite clear: if Nixon truly decides a peaceful settlement he must fix a date for a quick withdrawal of all US and satellite troops, military personnel, weapons and war materials from South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia; he must put an end to all acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and strictly respect its sovereignty and security. In case he fails to do so, the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia will fight with all their might till final victory.

Victory shall surely be ours because our peoples are closely united and firmly determined to fight and to win. We enjoy the strong support by the People's Republic of China, the Soviet Union, other socialist countries and all freedom loving peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the world.

Jaalle Mohamed Ali Samater, Vice-President, Sec. of Defence and Commandant of the National Army.

THE NATIONAL ARMY AND THE REVOLUTIONARY CAUSE

On June 5th 1971, the Secretary of State for Defence and Commandant of the National Army, General Mohamed Ali Samanter delivered an important address at the National University. It is no accident that the role of the Army in Nation-building was touched upon by General Samanter. The Army in the developing countries play an important role in the formulation of national destiny, and especially in the context of having the final say in any political struggle for power. How come this? In answering this and other questions, it is necessary to pass at least a cursory glance at the structure, background etc of the national army and the general situation prevailing in these countries.

First, it is necessary to point out that most of the developing countries having achieved their independence from colonial powers, are to an extent and specially in the first period tied to the base and superstructure left over by the metropoliticians. This base and superstructure is colonial oriented and envasages little or nothing for the future development of these countries. This is true since the former colonial powers, inspite of their granting of formal independence and the establishment of formal state institutions, maneovers to maintain a substantial presence in the form of neo-colonialism.

The struggle in the developing countries is, thus centred on the question of maintaining the **status quo** as inherited from the colonialists or of radically transfering the socio-economic basis of society. Evidently, the maintenance of the **status quo** however temporary is advocated by those who were tied to the colonial regimes in the pre-independence period, and have benefited from the advent of independence by stepping into the shoes of the former colonial masters. The call for the radical transfer of society is on the other hand the cherished goal of the toiling masses of their society and rebirth of the hitherto suppressed national personality.

In spite of the temporary successes

of the servants of neo-colonialism in maintaining the **status quo** as inherited from the metropolitician in the port-independence period, it becomes impossible for them to maintain it for a long time. this explains the dialectical nature of development of society which negates any thing static, and presupposes the development of everything in society. This is substantiated by the fact that inspite of the efforts of those who have vested interests in the maintenance of the status quo, it is impossible for them to delay for long the masses' call for radical change.

The basic problem here, is therefore, one of changing the socio-economic legancy of colonialism and of creating a corresponding superstructure by crashing the hitherto existing one. The struggle for this, and the determination of others to frustrate the same culminates in bringing nearer to the surface all the contradictions of society. A stage, is therefore, reached in the development of society where all the material and objective conditions are ripe for effecting the required change. But the question is: who is best equipped to bring about this required change? The answer to this question lies in objectively analysing the conditions prevailing in a particular society, the polarisation of classes, the strong and weak etc.; in general the correlation between the various classes and other social groups.

Experience has shown that where the polarisation of classes has crystalised, and the proleteriat has established its own revolutionary political organisation, then historic role of the vanguard of the imminent revolution befalls the proleteriat, the most revolutionary class in society. However, experience has also demonstrated that, as a result of a low-level of industrial production, or the non-existence of industry on an extensive scale the proleteriat may correspondingly be small in numerical strength, weak in organisation and composed in ideological orientation. This is unfortunately, the case in most of the developing countries.

Since the proleteriat, the most revolutionary class in society, is in these cases in its infancy, and lacks the ideological and organisational capacity to bring about the needed change, such an honour befalls on another well organised institution in the country which is the National Army. The National Army in these cases becomes an instrument of the peoples' will and carries the banner of the revolution as a temporary custodian.

General Samanter, one of the most promising stars of the nation, an orator and a serious person had this in mind when he said the following in his speech at the National University:

Wherever there is no properly working class, it is the armed forces who must be the vanguard and defend the Revolution from reactionary elements.

The test here, therefore lies in the absence of an organized proleteriat, and the inference is that, the assumption of power by the Army in this case is temporary and will hand over to the proletriat the only force historically proved to be the vanguard of the revolution, when the time is ripe.

However, it is pertinent to point out that the Army does not always play the role of the saviour of the nation in developing countries. Contemporary history reveals the many example when the Army and Police as the only organized forces in society have been instrumental in toppling a progressive regime or in blocking revolutionary measures.

What makes the army play such a role in these circumstance? First and foremost, it is the level of political consciousness of its officers rank and file, and ideological orientation. When the officers are brought up in a conservative set-up, are given training in reactionary military institutions, and support the politics of conservatives and reactionaries, in these cases then the Army and Police fail to expose the people's cause. On the contrary, the Army serves the interests

of the propertied classes and neo-colonial masters, becomes an instrument directed aganist the people.

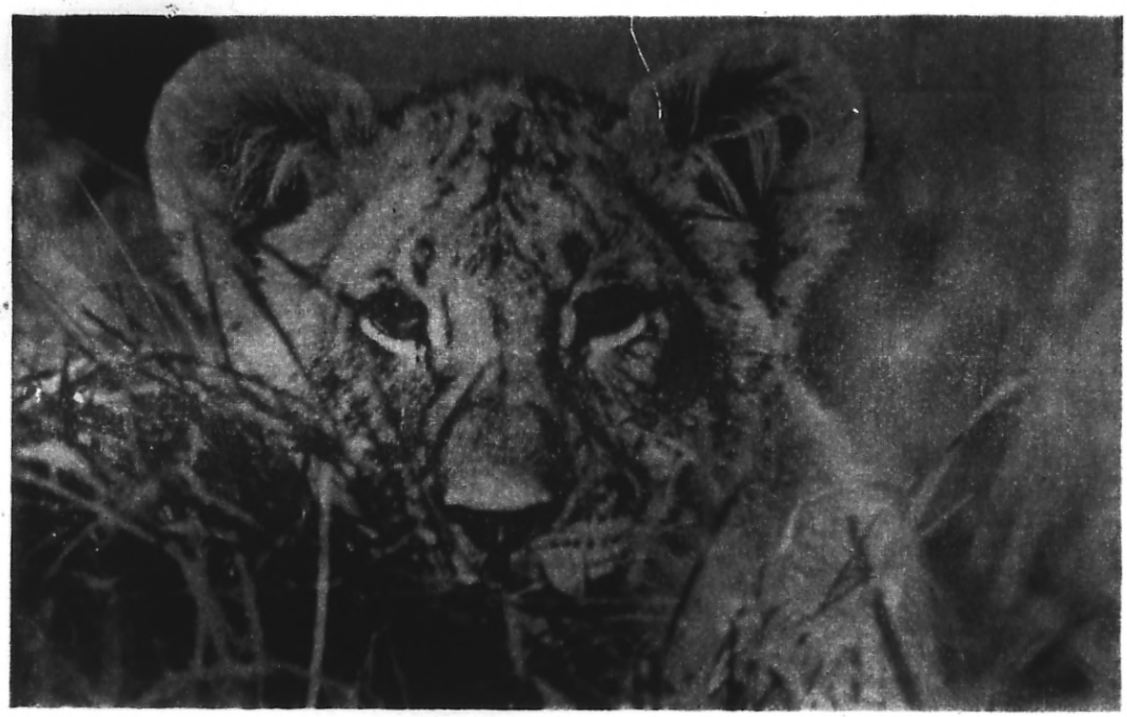
When on the other hand, the officers are conscious of their national duties, refrain from participation in corruption etc. and there is a charity of vision in purposes and ideology, then the Army becomes a temporary substitute for the proleteriat and expresses the aspirations of the masses as has happened on October 21, 1969 in Somalia.

Experience has further demonstrated that when the Army retains amongst its ranks, reactionaries and corrupt elements, there is always cause to worry. Dr. Kwame Nkrumah has admitted in his «Dark Ages in Ghana» that one of his worst mistakes was to leave the Army and Police in the dubious elements whose loyalties to the revolutionary policies of his regime were highly questionable, other leaders in Africa have experienced the same mistake. The conclusion that could be drawn from this bitter experience is that in those countries which pursue revolutionary policies, it is absolutely essential to purge the Army and Police from all reactionary and dubious elements. The essence of this purge is not a vendetta or victimisation, but is to consolidate the revolutionary gains of the masses by ridding the Army and police of all those who are not loyal to the revolution.

General Samanter has rightly already seen through this their thread and has expanded on this in a very unequivocal manner when he said in his address at the national university the following:

«I promise the Somali Nation that not a single anti-revolutionary element will be left in the rank of the Armed Forces».

A Teacher under military training at «Bottego.»



Tourists will come across a variety of wild animals.

AN ANCIENT LAND FULL OF INTEREST FOR VISITOR AND STUDENT

The fabled land cf punt still holds much that will appeal to the tourist in its quiet open spaces and its history that stretches back into time

THE mainstream of tourist movement is still largely to areas outside Africa, principally in Europe and the Americas. This leaves Africa as virtually virgin territory in international tourism.

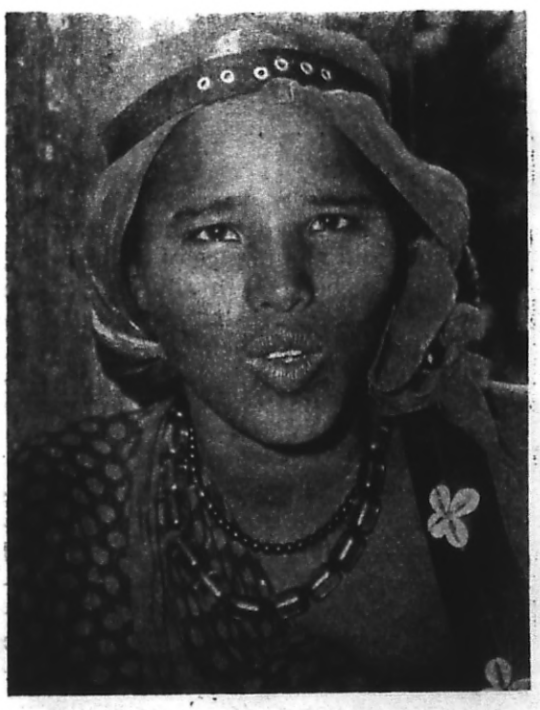
Somalia, as a developing country, is very conscious of the attractions and opportunities she has to offer the visitor, and is anxious also to attract a fair share of the tourist movement to Africa that is slowly gathering momentum.

To do this effectively calls for a highly developed tourist circuit within the country, providing first class facilities in the form of comfortable accommodation, scenic and game attractions, beaches with

water sport facilities and deep sea fishing, transport both by land and air, and trained staff to operate all these amenities.

Somalia is a country of vast, fascinating spaces, uncluttered by the concrete jungles that have crowded in the land area of the developed countries. It is a largely unpolluted area where it is still possible to get away from crowds, traffic congestion and supermarkets, to enjoy the unspoilt beauty of nature in its majestic African setting.

Somalia is a country rich in folklore, steeped in history, with a people noted for their friendliness and hospitality. It has



A young Somali woman in her native costume.

The happy pastoralist.

Mogadishu is a jewel in the Indian Ocean.

a rich literary heritage and is famed for its delightful music. Its appeal lies in the old and the new, and it is a meeting place of many cultures, all of which have left their traces in old buildings, beautifully carved woodwork, music, handicrafts, and in a host of other forms which never fail to appeal.

Since the Revolution, Somalia has concentrated new effort in its bid to woo the tourist, and today many schemes are taking shape in different parts of the country, each of which has an appeal that is distinct and unique. Somalia, which many tourists and tourist organisations overlook is nearer to Europe and America than most other parts of Africa, and offers a climate sunnier and healthier than most.

In the new plans for development, among the priorities are hotels, villages, national parks and hunting reserves.

One of Africa's main attractions for the visitor is its wild life. It is also little known that Somalia has an abundance of wild animals and can boast of several that are found only in Somalia and nowhere else on the continent. These range from the largest to the smallest of the animal kingdom.

Elephants abound in Lower Juba

The beach of Mogadishu is sought after by many holiday makers.

Somalia is famed the world over for the variety and abundance of its bird life, and these can be seen in any part of the Republic from the forested mountain regions of the north, along the coastal towns, in the capital, and in the southern parts of the country where agriculture is the predominant way of life.

Once in the capital of Mogadishu, the tourist will have little difficully in finding his way to the attractions that appeal to him most. Somali Airlines, the national air service, flies to all the major centres and also provides charter flights to other areas not served by scheduled services.

There are night clubs, curio shops, a delightful museum, colourful villages, communities where traditional folk arts are practised, and scores of other appealing features to hold the interest of the visitor fortunate enough to find hilmself in the Somali Democratic Republic.

A SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF AFRICAN CO-OPERATION AND NEIGHBOURLINESS

THE TANZAM RAILWAY WINDS ITS WAY FROM ZAMBIA TO DARES SALAAM

ZAMBIA, before it became independent, was Northern Rhodesia. Its economy was tied to South Africa and the other white minority-dominated states in the south. This situation was actively exploited by these racist countries when Zambia became independent. They believed that it would be possible to manipulate economic factors so as to leave Zambia in a state of constant dependence upon them.

The most important single item in

TANZAM RAILWAY: the view from dar

THE RAIL PROSPECT POINTS THE WAY TO FUTURE AFRICAN PROGRESS

Zambia's economy is copper, and to reach international markets, all Zambia's copper production was sent by rail across Rhodesia to port outlets in so-called Portuguese Mozambique and south to other sea outlets in South Africa. This rail network also played an essential part in the inflow of foodstuffs into Zambia. Hence a perfect situation existed for the white states to enforce blockade conditions which, they reasoned, would act as a break upon Zambia's economic progress. Geography had given the white rulers of Southern Africa a decisive advantage over independent Zambia.

All liberated African states have had considerable initial obstacles to overcome before they could settle down to the vital task of nation-building. Zambia, in planning for its future progress wisely developed new trading links with her independent sister states to the north, thus consolidating African unity, ensuring her own future, and frustrating the designs of the white south.

The most important single development to emerge from Zambia's landlocked plight was the construction of a 1056-mile long railway linking Tanzania's modern port of Dar es Salaam to Zambia's Copper Belt.

It is noteworthy that while this railway is being constructed by the Chinese as an aid programme, Tanzania and Zambia first sought the financial and technical assistance of western nations to undertake this economic life-line for Zambia. The western nations, expressing doubt about the feasibility of such a project, declined to provide the assistance sought. Therefore, when China came forward and offered to construct the Tan-Zam rail link, it touched off a hubbub of criticism and speculation in western capitals.

Tanzania's President Nyerere, answering the wave of speculation the event unleashed, stated categorically: «The Chinese people have not asked us to be Communists to qualify for their aid.»

The railway, progressing rapidly, will relieve Zambia of any further dependence on port facilities in the south, and is an outstanding example of the kind of African collaboration that the white minorities in the south do not want to see. Every act of collaboration between independent states of Africa intensifies the mounting feeling of insecurity in Pretoria, Salisbury and Lourenco Marques, and provokes the kind of opposition that is often voiced by South Africa's Premier Vorster in the call for «a united front» against the African socialist states.

However work proceeds on the huge task of building the rail link, the construction of which will involve the excavation of 88.81 million cubic metres of earth and rock, 2197 culverts and 19 tunnels, and a work force of several thousand, including no less than 7,000 Chinese technicians.

At the inauguration of the work, Zambia's President Kaunda, noted that the railway will have «a tremendous impact on the future of this part of the world.

«We very much welcome this endeavour as opening a new chapter for millions of our people to improve their economic and social condition apart from the employment which both the construction and operation of the railway system will provide», President Kaunda said.

In the Africa of today the need for economic consolidation is imperative as one of the cardinal safeguards for the future, and in undertaking the Tan-Zam rail link both Tanzania and Zambia have set an example to other African states that in collaboration lies the answer to the threat from the white minorities entrenched in the south, and those other countries who do not wish to see the progress and development of free Africa.

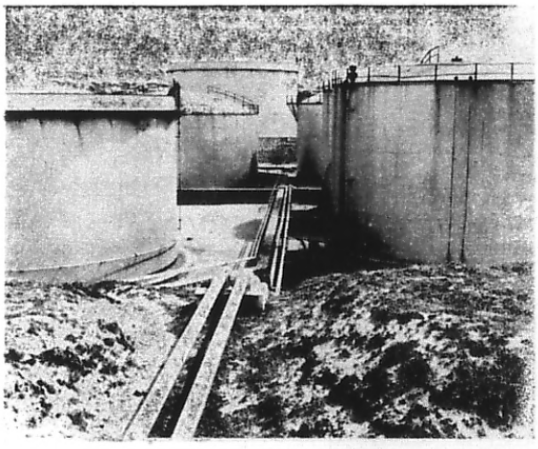
It will not be long before another railway links the distant corners of Africa in the continent's unfolding progress.

A NATIONALISED INDUSTRY

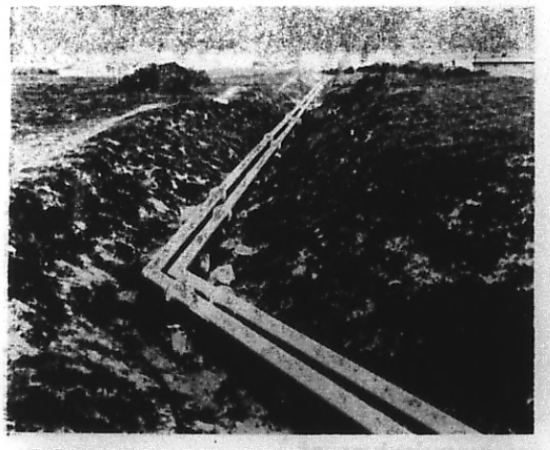
SETTING A NEW TEMPO IN THE NATION'S DEVELOPMENT

AMONG the institutions nationalised by the government as making an essential contribution to national development were the foreign-owned oil companies.

The National Petroleum Agency, formerly Agip (Somalia) S.P.A., underwent a thorough reorganisation to play an effective part as a State-owned agency functioning within the framework of a Revolutionary socialist economy.



AN OIL INSTALLATION



PIPE-LINES PUMPING PETROL FROM TANKERS

Far-reaching changes were necessary to adapt the organisation to local needs. This meant the abolition of wholesale and third party outlets, and the closing down of stores and offices to increase efficiency and streamline the distribution network.

New legislation was needed to regularise the activities of the organisations which, though an essential part of the economy, were formerly geared to competitive activity.

From te reorganisation emerged a new factory for the manufacture of 20-litre tinplate containers, with a production output of 300 containers per hour. These containers are used in the distribution of kerosene, and some are made available on the open market for sale to the public.

A numebr of buildings and installations were found to be in a near dilapilated condition at the time of nationalisation, and all have since been restored to their original usefulness.

A one-kilometer pipeline for the discharge of petroleum products was replaced and new fire control equipment was installed.

These are only some of the many improvements effected under the programme of activities initiated by the management after the take-over.

Some of the other projects include the reconstruction of the bus station and the service station at El-Gab in Mogadishu, and reconstruction and improvements to the service station on Kilometer 4 in the capital.

This programme also made provision for the reconditioning of fuel storage tanks at the Mogadishu Coastal Depot, and has made possible the reconstruction and enlargement of a beach house on Mogadishu's Lido, as well as the construc-

EVOLVING NEW PATTERNS FOR PROGRESS

tion of a new 'Security House' in Mogadishu.

Among projects currently underway are the construction of filling stations in the towns of Bosaso, Gardo, Bur Hacaba, Wanle Uen, Merca and Balad.

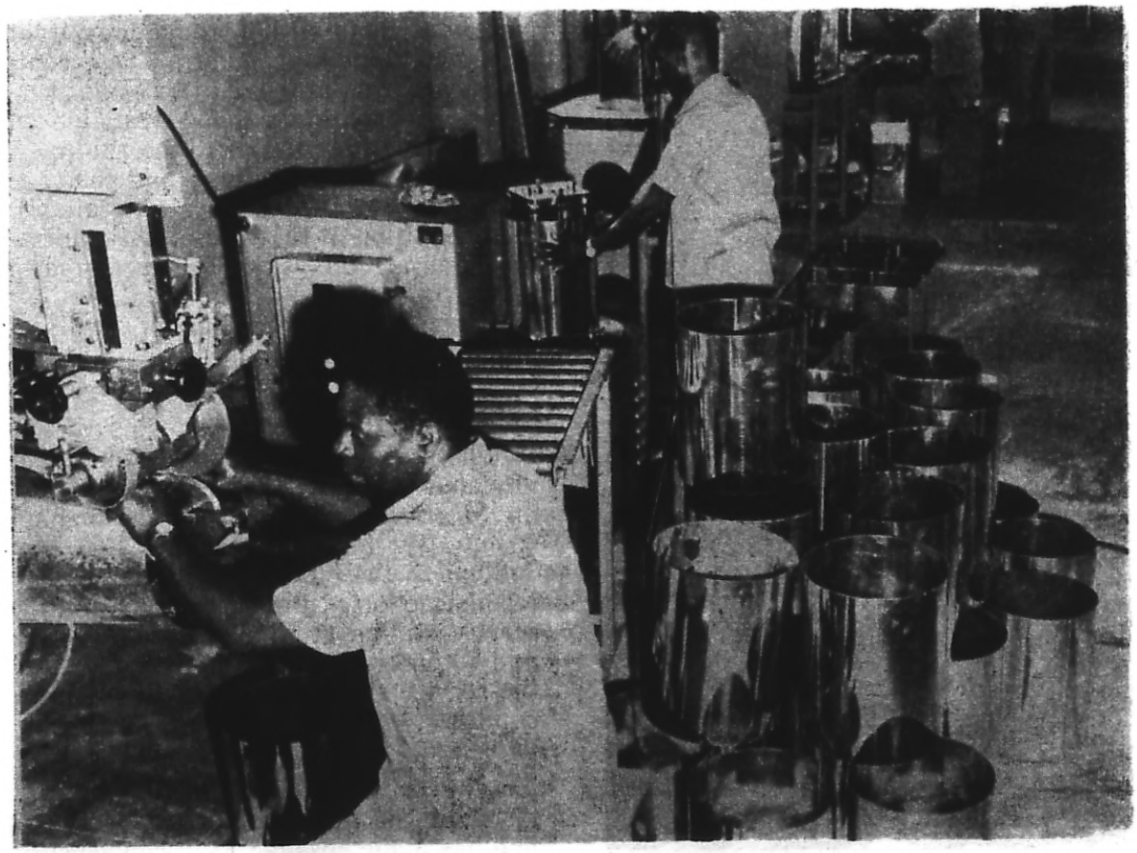
On the drawing boards are a number of projected improvements. These include a new service station and two new filling stations in the capital, and a service station located in Hargeisa in the north.

The agency has also extended its distribution services in a number of areas which were previously handled through private outlets, these include the Lower Juba and the northern regions, and also involves the distribution of kerosene in the southern regions.

All the Somali employees of the firms which handled distribution of oil products have been absorbed into the petroleum agency.

The accounting system formerly in use has been completely reformed to increase its effectiveness and, consistent with new administrative changes all stationery and other printed matter reflects the agency's new image.

Today, the National Petroleum Agency makes a bigger and more effective contribution to Somalia's developing economy. Under the direction of the management which, from the general manager to the lower reaches of the management and organisation, is entirely in the hands of Somali personnel.



A new tin factory for the manufacture of 300 litre capacity per hour in Mogadishu.

Bumpet harvest at Janale Agricultural Crash Programme area.

Teachers under training to defend the revolution.

The President of the SRC is received warmly in the North.

The masses are the allies of the revolution

Medical care for children on a large scale

A young Somali nurse in the health service

NAMIBIA.. WHAT IS ITS FUTURE?

SOUTHERN AFRICA presents the most explosive situation on the African continent today. The minority white communities in South Africa, Angola, Rhodesia and South-West Africa, entrenched in power on the basis of controlling the economy of these countries, and political systems founded on the concept of white domination, underpinned by military superiority, perpetuate the misery of vast numbers of non-whites. It is a situation that cannot last for ever, and non-white agitation is intensifying to the point where, despite the inequalities of military power, violent confrontations are inevitable.

These, however, are not the only considerations that make Southern Africa a potential flashpoint. The supply of arms to the white governments by the world powers, and the consolidation of trading links help to strengthen the hold the minority regimes have over the non-white peoples.

This article examines the position of Namibia, or South-West Africa as it is known, in its attempts to rally the local populations in the struggle against tightening white rule, and to focus world attention on the true facts, which are still too little known.

NAMIBIA BATTLES DEFIANTLY AGAINST POWERFUL ODDS FOR ITS FREEDOM

THIS IS A CLOSE LOOK OF A CRUCIAL AFRICAN PROBLEM

NAMBIA covers a vast area, and some indication of its size is gained from the fact that it is as big as Texas and Oklahoma in the U.S.A. put together. It lies on South Africa's north-west, washed by the Atlantic Ocean along its entire west coast, sharing its northern boundary with Angola, and on the east, with Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, the present disputed land of Southern Rhodesia, and borders on the Caprivi Zipfel.

The country consists of 3 major geographic regions, namely, the Namib coastal desert extending 40 to 80 miles from the Atlantic seaboard; the central plateau, which covers about half the total area, and the Kalahari Plains occupying the north east portion of the country. In addition to these, it has an excellent fishing industry and is noted for its Persian lamb farming. Add to this the discovery of oil, and one sees immediately the rich economic prize that Namibia is to South Africa, which has closed its possessive hold upon this country, causing much hardship to the local inhabitants, many of whom, uprooted from their traditional homelands, have fled as refu-

A Namibian leader addresses a crowd at the National Theatre-Mogadishu.

gees to neighbouring Zambia and Botswana.

Namibia has a rich mineral-based economy of diamonds in the Namib, and base metals such as lead, copper, zinc, and vanadium located around Tsumeb.

Namibia's experience of colonial oppression, however, predates South Africa's apartheid control, going back to 1884 when the country fell under German rule. The campaigns of genocide by the Germans caused an uproar in Germany itself, and the horrors perpetrated during that period have left a deep psychological scar on the people of Namibia. The situation was not helped by the subsequent strictures and rigours of apartheid domination.

During the local revolutionary rising against the Germans between 1904 and 1907 no less than 60,000 Hereros were exterminated. But the Germans experienced a considerable setback to their African aspirations.

In 1920 Namibia was handed over to South Africa by the League of Nations to be administered «as an integral portion» of its domains. Thus began a new phase in the struggle of the people of Namibia against colonial oppression which, systematically, placed them at various times in concentration camps masquerading at different periods under such euphemisms as «reservations,» «locations,» «Bantustans,» and «homelands.»

Agitation and a resistance among the people of Namibia against colonial domination continued and reached fever pitch in 1946 when the United Nations moved to give Namibia trusteeship status under South Africa. The latter, ignoring the U.N. request, set about incorporating Namibia as the fifth province of the Union of South Africa.

This was the beginning of legal procedures which sought to preserve the separate identity of Namibia despite South Africa's reluctance to release its hold upon that country.

Between 1947 and 1959 the United Nations General Assembly and the International Court of Justice upheld the status of Namibia and established that any change in the character of that territory could only be made with the concurrence of the U.N. General Assembly, and not by South Africa alone.

The whole issue of Namibia assumed a new significance when, in 1960, Ethiopia and Liberia, both former members of the League of Nations filed a petition calling upon the International Court to find against South Africa's maladministration of Namibia and violation of her international obligations. Two years later, the Court upheld its right to adjudicate in the matter. In 1966, however, Namibia's hopes of a settlement of its status suffered a setback when the Court found that Ethiopian and Liberia had no interest in South Africa's conduct of its administration in Namibia and that the Court was therefore unable to rule on the merits of the case.

Intensifying agitation among Namibia's people following the Courts inconclusive deliberations brought increasing pressure upon the United Nations which adopted Resolution 2145 which declared that Namibia remain under international

MINERAL BASED ECONOMY

responsibility and that South Africa, by its conduct, had forfeited its right to administer Namibia, and its mandate was therefore terminated. In the voting on the Resolution, South Africa and Portugal voted against, while France, Britain, and Malawi abstained.

The year 1967 saw the formation of a 14-nation Ad Hoc Committee which met during the months of January to March to recommend practical steps for the liberation of Namibia. In April of the same year a special session of the United Nations General Assembly set up, by Resolution, the U.N. Council for Namibia, exercising administrative and executive authority over the territory through a U.N. Commissionner for Namibia. About 2 months later the member nations of the Council for Namibia were elected. They were named as Chile. Guyana, Coiumbia, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Zambia, the U.A.R. Yugoslavia, and Turkey. Thus the question of Namibia was transformed from a purely legal and moral issue into a crucial political problem on the Agenda of the General Assembly.

Further efforts to attain legal clarification were set in motion by the Security Council request for an advisory opinion from the International Court on the consequences of South Africa's continued presence in Namibia. Petitions on behalf of the people of Namibia supporting the Security Council action were submitted and, on June 21, 1971, the International Court of Justice declared that South Africa must withdraw forthwith its illegal administration from Namibia.

As these negotiations proceded, the struggle for liberation in Namibia goes on, and what follows is an account by a newspaper journalist of how the struggle is being waged. The report, written by Joseph Gleuck, reporting from Francistown, Botswana, appeared in AFRICA AND THE WOLD.

The age in which we live has variously been called the Age of Revolution, the Age of Anguish, the Age of the Dusk before the Darkness. But even after the last criticism of our Time has been made, no one can honestly deny that it is also an Age of Unprecedented and Creative Challenges.

And amongst the more creative and challenging crises is the opportunity to witness the difficult transition of the long exploited and oppressed peoples of South West Africa now undergoing an extraordinary political transition of revolutionary awareness destined to give birth to a decisive revolution in Southern Africa.

With particular reference to the African continent, and especially to these countries in Southern Africa, there are many heroic patriots who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom of their countries. Among these patriots this Maharero, Kahimemua, Chief Munyuku Nguvauva and Chief Witbooi.

In addition, there are the names of those South West African young revolutionary fighters who have sacrificed the comforts of home, health and family in order to pursue the liberation struggle of their country in alien lands far from their native shores.

The names of Veiue Mbaeva and Mburumba Kerina of the South West Africa National United Front have become legends among their pepole in Botswana and across the border in South West Africa.

The majority of the South West Africans are united through the Front against their common enemy South Africa. It is through this Front that they see their final victory and the creation in the ter-

YEARS OF COLONIAL OPPRESSION

ritory of a non-racial democratic government fully representative of all South West Africans.

In the view of this reporter the task of bringing about this form of Front must have been a frustrating one on the part of those who nursed it from infancy to its maturity. It is the manner in which this Front has been organised and carefully built that draws the curiosity of a visitor to know more about the South West Africans.

One thing is clear and that is that the brains behind the Front worked with great effectiveness in co-ordinating the previously scattered people in various political factions thus cementing them into one of the most revolutionary movements.

It is useless to try to ask people political questions. They will not say «yes» or «no». They are very well disciplined. It is even more difficult to know who is not a member of the Front. This is a great accomplishment on the part of the organisers of the movement, particularly in Southern Africa where it is now insecure to express political opinions let alone belong to a political movement. While we must hail their courage and hard decision to tread this comfortless path, nevertheless we must recognise certain hard facts.

The international climate of our time, the concentrations of power and the determinants that direct these concentrations, impose certain limitations to an exclusive preoccupation with struggle outside the limits of one's own country.

At the central stage of this extra-territorial campaigning, there is a glamour that attaches to leading deputations to foreign governments, to appearing as Petitioners or in any other capacity before international tribunals, and in delivering speeches on the need for independence for one's own country.

But this glamour is entirely superficial and soon rubs off, for the cold, hard incontrovertible reality is that no international organisation, still less any national government, has either the will or the resolve to intervene in the direction of alterng the status quo in Southern Africa towards more civilised and enlightened governments, inspite of all genuine protestations as the bastions of democracy and freedom.

We must recognise that South African colonialism in South West Africa will die hard, and economic interests in the western world still hold the trump cards when it comes to anything like radical change.

One is tempted in the face of this problems to praise the far-sightedness of the organisers of the South West Africa National United Front. They have accomplished one great victory which even the Organisation of African Unity has yet to realise. The young men behind this Front have built an important revolutionary base uniting the urban population and those in rural areas, cutting across that tribalism which is the source of all Africa's evils.

No one group that previously existed in the Territory of South West Africa had created such a base and broad popular following among the people comparable to the support given to the Front today. If there be anything to which the Organisation of African Unity should give its unqualified support, it is the South West Africa National United Front. Therein lies the future solution of the problem fo South West Africa.

The simple result of the hard facts of economic reality, which prop up reactionary regimes in the name of maintaining status quo, as if the «status quo» were the ultimate good, is that Southern Africa's nationalists have inevitably come up against the blank wall of frustration.

WHITE STRANGLE HOLD ECONOMICALLY AND FINANCIALLY

The consequence of this frustration has driven many potential revolutionaries to destruction. This tragic spectacle threatened South West Africans at one time according to responsible persons not only here in Botswana but also those who reside in South Africa.

It is true to say — as do the Hereros with their long history of revolutionary experience — that an eagle when driven to desperate limits, turns round and kills its own young.

A similar calamity threatened South West Africans, but two of their able spokesmen abroad came to grips with their problem thus liberating their people from the danger of turning against themselves. Today, the mutual recrimination which rent the air in the past has been channelled into a positive direction as the result of the formation of a genuine independent revolutionary movement -- the South West African National United Front.

The Territory is now speaking with a single voice on the international arena. It is said that those who represent the Front abroad have the official titles only of «representatives». This strategy has helped to bury the struggle for leadership while creating a favourable climate within the Territory for effective organisation on the part of those working at home in the underground.

According to reliable information reaching this reporter, a great number of individuals formerly associated with a small party operating from the tribal area of Ovamboland have joined the Front is inspired basically by the spirit of real comradeship and a sense of collective leadership which characterises the structural organisation of the Front.

It has some of the well-educated South West African revolutionaries who share with their fellow men on the basis of brotherhood the responsibilities of directing a truly genuine revolutionary movement.

The lesson of our two decades of extra territorial activity would have been in vain if we had not yet drawn the moral from it all.

And that moral is that —this in the last analysis, there is NO SUBSTITUTE for the hard, unspectacular labour of working on the home front, for politicising the masses, for organising scattered and desperate groups of our peoples and wielding them into a truly representative revolutionary movement similar to that of the Vietnamese which alone will be able to reclaim the precious gems of freedom and independence.

Not even the most eloquent pleas to foreign governments or the United Nations, however friendly they may be, can be an alternative organisation inside South West Africa. It is signiticant that it is not those who receive support from American sources and other western governments who are spearheading the revolutionary struggle in South West Africa.

It is those who have decided to shoulder the responsibility of first uniting their people and thus directing one of the most extraordinary underground revolutionary organisations — the South West Africa National United Front -- who are leading their people's freedom cause. It is being romoured that the OUA will soon review the problem of recognition and support of the South West African freedom struggle.

The philosopher, George Santayana,

FRUSTRATION AND DESPERATION

once said that those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it. We owe it to the longsuffering people of South West Africa to respect their lessons of history and to help them prepare for the protracted but heroic internal liberation struggle that alone opens the entrance to the highways of freedom, independence and human dignity. There is no doubt that they have found their first victory in solidifying themselves in the South West National United Front which alone guarantees their success over South African colonialism.

While Namibians themselves remain assured that their efforts to liberate their country will succeed, a further important element in the whole Namibian question is that of foreign economic interest which bolster South Africa's apartheid regime. Some indication of the size of this foreign role is revealed in the details that follow, which are excerpted from AFRICA, issue No. 2 of 1971.

«Western mining companies and some Western governments are openly flouting the U. N. Security Councill recommendation to avoid economic relations with Namibia. U. S. firms are particularly active in spite of an American government statament that it would comply with the recommendation. The British and West German governments are so involved in a vast uranium mine that activities can only lead to the strengthening of South Africa's hold on the territory.

The Belgian socialist deputy Mr. Glinne recently pointed to official German involvement in the new mine at Rossing, 36 miles from Swakopmund and alleged «new efforts to organise a co-penetration of European and South African interests in the exploitation of Namibian resources.»

His question: «If the German consortium Urangesellschaft was partially financed by the German Federal Government» was answered by a recent article in «Der Spiegel.» The German magazine pointed out that some members of the consortium such as Hibernia AG, Herne and Steinkohlen-Elektrizitats were either fully or partially stateowned.

Of the DM 800 million ($85,552,380.60) sofar invested by the consortium 600 million (£67,164.179.10) had been provided by the German ministry for economic affairs, the article said, adding that Urangesellschaft intended to invest another DM 700 million (£ 74,626.865.68) and was hoping for a new government contribution.

There is also official support from the British government, via the Atomic Energy Authority, which has contracted to buy 7,300 tons of uranium oxide worth about £25 million from South Africa between 1976 and 1982. The mineral will have been treated by South Africa's Nuclear Fuel Corporation. It will be mined by Rio Tinto which has an 82 per cent holding in the new mining company Rossing Uranium Ltd. The German consortium which holds the remainder of the capital has also contracted to buy oxide.

The decision about British participation was taken after the UN Security Council recommendation which dates from January 30, 1970.

US representative at the UN, Mr. Charles Yost said emphatically on May 20, 1970 that his country would no longer guarantee investments made by Americans in Namibia, and would discourage any new investments. Yet, according to «US News and World Report» of November 16, 1970, Bethlem Steel has decided to work fluorine deposits in northern Namibia in association with the Tsumeb Corporation. It had abandoned its iron-ore prospecting there three years

OBJECTIVE IS NOT IN DOUBT

earlier. Tsumeb, a subsidiary of American Metal Climax and Newmont Mining Corporation, has one of the biggest lead mines in Africa.

In fact, Mr. Yost has been utterly ignored. Gulf Oil, Chevron Oil, Syracuse Oil and Woodfort Oil and Gas have all taken out prospecting concessions in Namibia, while another petrolcum company, Getty Oil, is prospecting for diamonds on the Namibia coast in association with Tidal Diamonds, and Kennecott — recently nationalised in Chili — is looking for copper in the Kalahari Desert. US investment in Namibia now represents about a fifth of the American investment total in South Africa itself, or between £ 120 and £ 150 million.

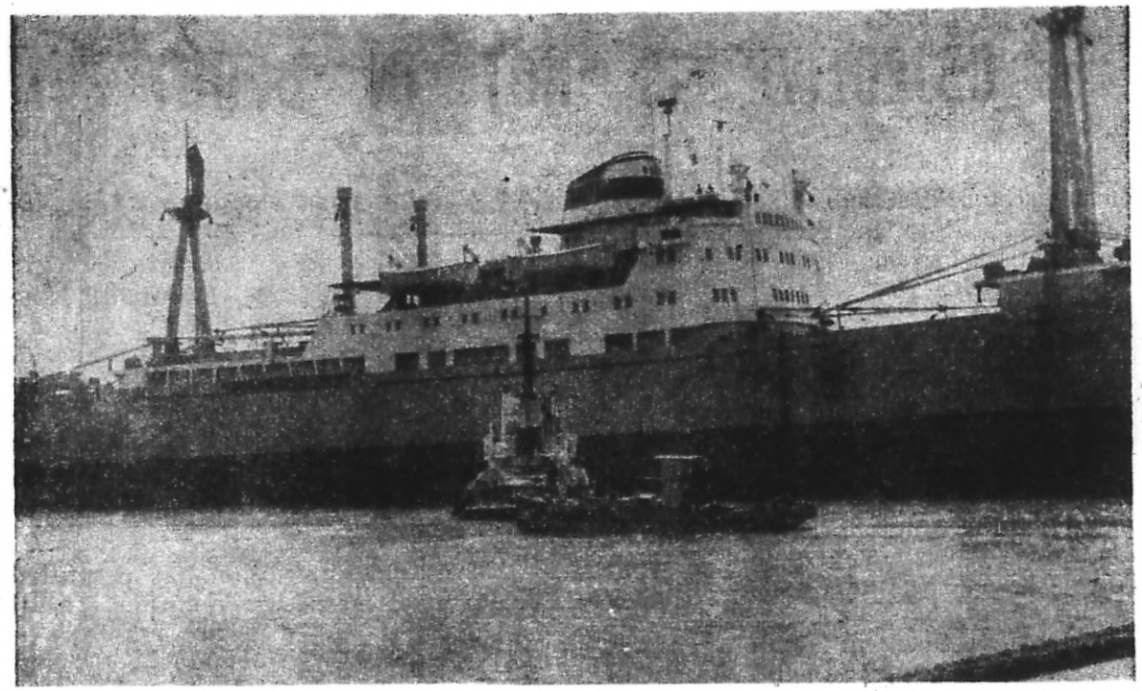
At present 44 Western companies are extracting Namibian minerals and 19 new mines have recently come into operation. Pretoria is said to have accorded a total of 1,000 prospecting concessions, in this vast, new «Klon-dyke».

At the present stage of the territory's development, apartheid is a stimulant rather than a hindrance to economic activity. «The fundamental purpose of apartheid is to create copious supplies of cheap labour, permitting high returns on capital» — says the paper published last year by the UN apartheid group. According to official South African figures the average monthly salary for African workers in the mining industry is 18 rands against 297 rands for whites, or 15 times less.

South Africa has consistently disregarded the UN mandate for former German territory and in 1949 the Nationalist Party introduced a Bill suppressing all reference to Namibia's mandatory status and introducing representation for the territory's white minority in the South African parliament.

Creeping annexation has permitted Pretoria to extend its notorious racial and political legislation to Namibia — the Suppression of Communism Act and the 90-day detention law, the legislation against «immorality» and against «terrorism».

With 25 per cent of the land reserved for the Africans who represent 82 per cent of the population and 47 per cent including most urban and all industrial and mining areas for «whites only», Africans, also deprived of basic trade union and political rights, have to accept starvation wages. It was no exaggeration when the United Nations described southern Africa as a vast forced labour camp. In its drive to acquire cheap raw material, Western capitalism has managed to build up a vested interest in the status quo. It is helping Pretoria to bolster apartheid and consolidate its hold on a buffer state essential to the security of the racist regime».



Tugs assisting ships to berth along the pier at Kismayu Port.

CHANGES IN PORT ORGANISATION SHOW BENEFITS

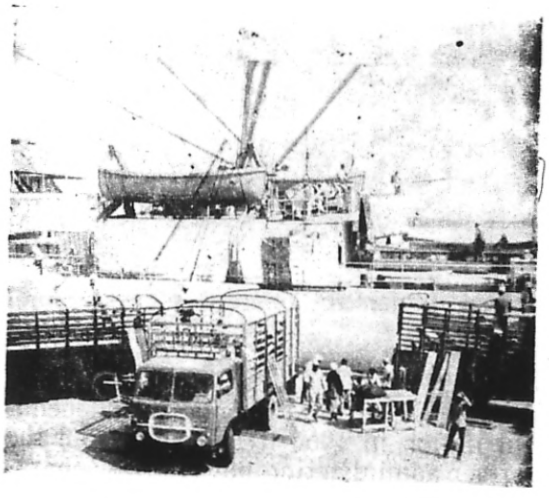
KISMAYU, one of the busiest and most modern of Somalia's ports, has undergone many changes to increase its efficiency and handling capacity during 1971.

Since the streamlining procedures were put into effect, the port handles more cargo per day, is more efficiently run and, significantly, earns more money than ever before.

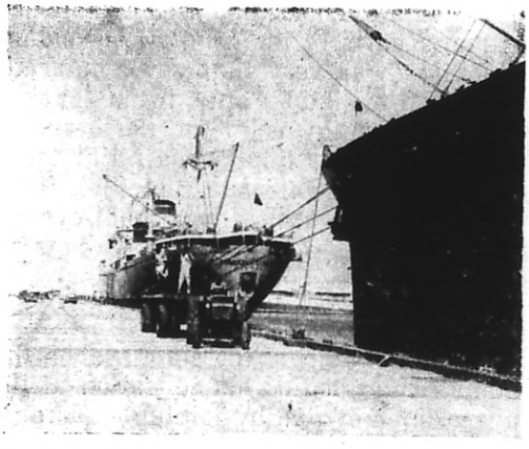
Operated today as a government agency, Kismayu was formerly run by private enterprise for a modest monthly rental of Shs. 40,000. There was, however, considerable dissatisfaction over port affairs. Staff controversies were not uncommon, efficiency was well below expected standards and, above all, ships' captains were not happy.

When the government took over the port, all 650 workers employed in the various ports services were absorbed and a new and improved schedule of activities was put into operation.

With these changes, the present loading capacity per gang-hour is 35 tons of bananas and 25 tons of general cargo.



Our Banana export on their way to Italy & European Common Market.



A Soviet ship carrying products of Meat Factory at Kismayu.

Banana ships of the biggest capacity are loaded within 24 hours, and new plans are currently being worked out to greatly increase the loading rate.

The port has its own powerful tugs to assist in the berthing of ships; cranes, forklifts, tractors, trailers, pontoon barges, lighters, trucks and all the paraphenalia to carry out quayside loading operations, and pading by barge if this is necessary.

One of the features of the reorganisation programme has been training for staff to better equip them for their duties, and the success of this programme is seen in the fact that unnecessary delays have been swept away, and all the ports activities function smoothly. There have also been great improvements within the port area.

The number of ships calling at Kismayu has increased during the past six months and ships' officers express their satisfaction with the changes and the efficiency of port services that have been made in recent months. And with these improvements income has leapt to new levels never realised before.

Captain Abdulcadir Keyreh, the Port Manager, puts it simply but effectively when he says: «It is not enough merely to make improvements; one has to continue making new improvements all the time.»

Thus, under a management team activated by the best ideals of the Revolution, Kismayu has become a good example of progress among the nation's vital sea ports.

Education gets priority in development programme

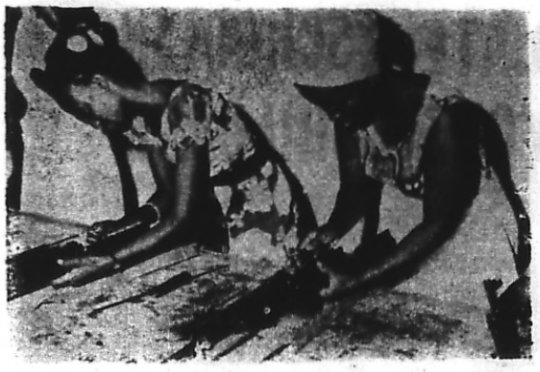
STEPS TO INTRODUCE SOMALI — LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

Secretary of State for Education addressing students at El Muny Summer Camp.

Somali students are trained in civil defence.

WHEN Somalia became an independent nation in 1960 it inherited from the former administering powers two separate educational systems, one in the North and the other in the south. These two systems differed not only in the length of time allocated to each of the three stages, and in the languages of instruction, but also in the content and educational traditions. Moreover, while elementary and intermediate schools had been established in many parts of the country, secondary education was very limited (comparatively) and available only in the capital city and few towns in the northern regions. The most important initial tasks of the Government were therefore, firstly, to unify the state educational system and secondly, to plan for its expansion throughout the country particularly at the secondary level.

Before entering the state system the Somali child begins his education at the age of four or five by joining a Koranic school for about two years, where he is introduced to the basic principles of Islam and the Holy Koran. Under the New system he then proceeds to a four-year elementary school where the medium of instruction is Arabic and then to a four-year Intermediate school where the medium of instruction is (in) English. By 1970, the process of unification which was introduced gradually had reached the point where the first pupils had completed their first eight years of education in accordance with the new national curriculum. It was thus possible to hold the



Young female trainees dismantle guns.

first national examination for intermediate school leavers which formed the basis of selection of pupils for the third (secondary) stage of education.

The unified curriculum which began to be extended to secondary schools in 1970/71, provides that English will continue to be the medium of instruction. At this stage pupils are admitted to general secondary school for a four year course, after which they are eligible to enter a Teacher Training College, or one of the Government courses in agriculture or Animal husbandary or the National University. They may also be selected for the award of scholarship, offered by a number of friendly countries for advanced training/studies overseas. In addition to general secondary schools pupils may obtain admission to a technical secondary school (4 years) or to one of the technical institutes which offer a 2 or 3 year course in specific trades as well as in clerical work.

These educational reforms have involved much work in the preparation of new syllabi and in the production of new textbooks specially written for Somali schools. Much remains to be done before new textbooks and teaching aids are available in all subjects at all levels of education. Great attention has also had to be paid to the retraining of teachers particularly at the elementary and intermediate level, so that they may teach effectively in accordance with the new corriculum.

The amount of secondary and higher education which can be provided must obviously depend partly on the country's need for high level and mid-level manpower and partly on the financial resources which can be devoted to this level of education. In the last five years there has been considerable expansion in secondary education e.g. from 1900 places in 1965 to 2544 places in 1970. At least 1,500 additional places will be added when various projects included in the next short term development plan 1971 — 1973 are completed.

At the sound of the whistle from the Camp Commander, students rush to the training ground.

MAKING INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLING AVAILABLE TO MORE CHILDREN

At the primary level (i.e. elementary and intermediate) it is Government's policy not only to provide places for as many children as possible in all parts of the country, but also to try and ensure that all children who commence elementary education shall be able to complete at least the first eight years to the end of intermediate. This policy is reflected in the enrolment of pupils in primary schools during recent years. Thus in elementary schools the expansion has been deliberately restricted, but there has been considerable expansion in intermediate schools as the following Figures show:—

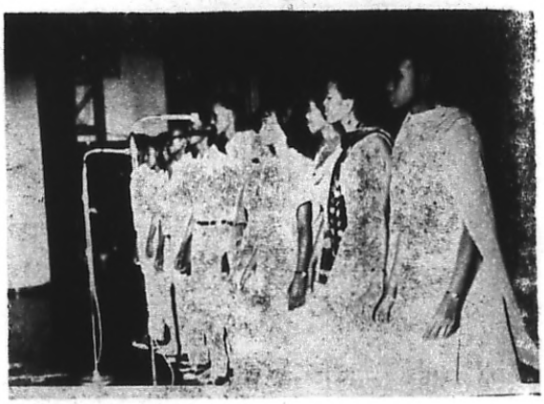
	1965	*1970*
Elementary pupils	23,288	25,939
Intermediate pupils	5,595	14,129

In the past insufficient attention had been paid to the development of practical skils, whether in science, or handicrafts or agriculture. The new syllabi that have been prepared for all types of schools lay much greater emphasis on these activities. Besides laying down a new syllabus, steps have been taken to ensure that proper facilities and trained teachers are available in the schools to carry out these new programmes. During the next three to four years development plans for which government revenues and substantial external aid have been pledged, should effect considerable improvement... Practical rooms will be added to many intermediate schools, science laboratories, workshops and Domestic science rooms will be added to at least ten secondary schools and in at least four of them practical facilities for the teaching of agriculture will be provided. Commercial studies too will not be neglected. Plans are also in hand for the improvement of the quality of technical and vocational training. The object of all this is to make the nation's schools more closely geared to economic and social development.

In the field of Higher Education a notable achievement since the Revolution has been the raising of the University Institute to the Status of a full University which has already conferred degrees to graduates who completed their studies in Somalia. More important still is that a start has been made in widening the scope of studies to include other faculties in addition to Law and Economics.

It is also expected that within 2 or 3 years the College of Education at Afgoi, which is due for considerable expansion and improvement in the development plan, will be turning out University graduates who could teach in secondary

Young students learn with discipline.



Students singing revolutionary songs.

The young revolutionary generation learning attentively.

Somali girl-students get military training

Young students are familiar with automatic guns.

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION NOT NEGLECTED

schools. At present there is acute shortage of such teachers in the country.

So far reference has been made only to the schools and other institutions which are operated by the Government and which constitute the public system of education. It must, however, be mentioned that in Somalia these facilities are supplemented by many private schools, mostly, in the Mogadishu area, which account for no less than 20% of the total school population. In some cases the schools in the private sector have followed the state system both in organisation and curriculum. In most cases however, they have continued to follow their own established systems. There are, for example, Italian schools which continue to provide an education entirely in the medium of Italian, Arab schools in which Arabic is the sole medium, and schools in which the teaching is entirely in English. Some of these schools serve the needs of foreign nationals who are living in Somalia, but they are also open to the children of Somali citizens, who my prefer this type of education. The private sector also provides valuable additional facilities in the field of vocational and technical education.

A revised Education Code is now in preparation which will among other things clarify the position of private schools. One of the objects of this measure will be to ensure that so far as is possible the private schools will conform to the unified pattern of national education, so that they may make a more effective contribution to the total natinal provision.

Whilst the Government has already made some progress in the provision of local facilities for higher education, both general and professional and plans to do more in the future, it is obvious that at present Somalia has to depend very heavily on other countries for their local training in a wide variety of specialization.

SCIENCE IS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT IN THE NEW CURRICULUM

The Government is grateful for the facilities which many countries have made available for the further education and training of our young men and women. In 1970 and 71 for example 134 offers of scholarship were received, besides over 1500 Somalis studied in 28 different countries, the majority of whom are pursuing degree courses.

But education in the modern world is not soley a matter of the formal education of children in schools and young men and women in colleges. It is or should be, a lifelong process. No one is too old to learn and everyone can learn something new. One of the immediate consequences of the Revolution has been renewed enthusiasm for adult education on a massive scale. Following the President's appeal for volunteer teachers from all walks of life in August 1970 over 20,000 adults enrolled in a variety of courses. The present Government has also declared its determination to solve once and for all the age-old problem of putting the rich Somali language into official written form. When this is achieved, it cannot fail to have enormous impact on the people. It will then be possible for the first time to make a genuine assault on the problem of mass illiteracy and to ensure that the rich heritage of Somali poetry, songs and literature, which is in grave danger of oblivion, shall be preserved as inspiration to future generations. When this takes place the recently established National Adult Education Centre will have a new and important part to play. In the first place it will need to develop and produce a wide range of new teaching aids and materials. Secondly it will need to develop the most up to date techniques and methods of teaching basic and functional literacy, and thirdly to train teams of voluntary workers who will be engaged in literacy programmes in all parts of the country. This should make it possible for large numbers of people to learn to read, write and communicate in their own language in the qickest space of time, instead of having to spend years in mastering a foreign language before they can read or write.

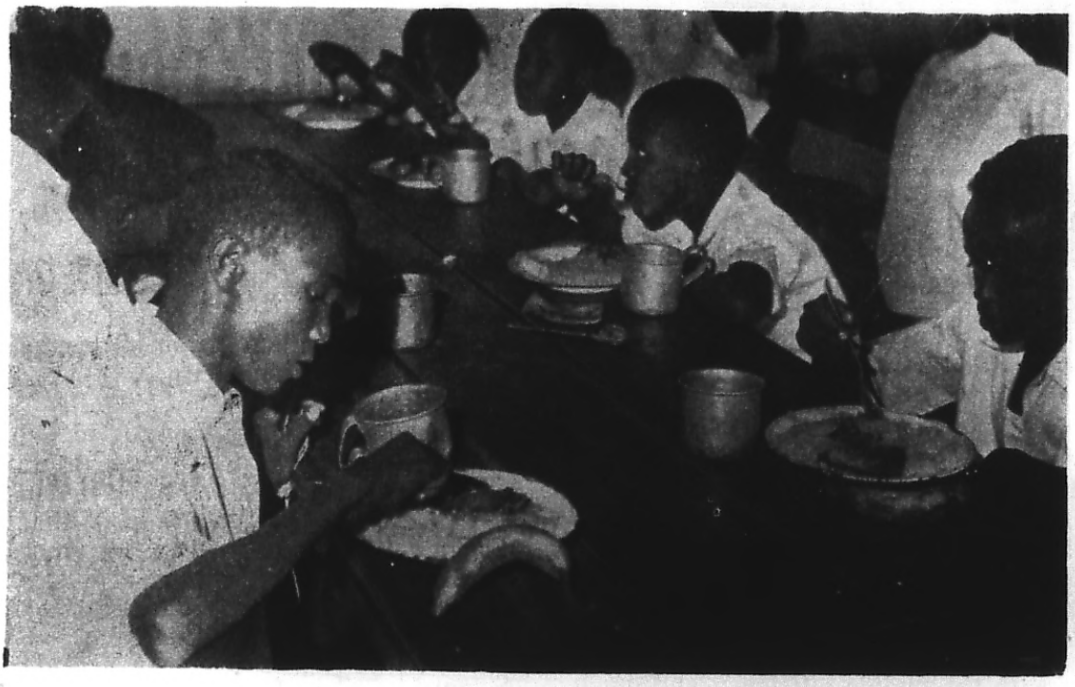
Part II — *Achievements during the Second year of the Revolution 1970 1971.*

The foregoing section gives a brief description of the situation as regards education as it has developed in the decade since independence indicating some of the main problems and the policies which have been adopted to solve them.

The present section will describe briefly those sectors of education which have been selected for priority action during the present Short Term Development Programme 1971-73 and in particular what has been done during the period from 70 to October 71, the second year of the Revolution.

Much time and energy were devoted to the detailed preparation of the various projects in the S.T.D.P. which were approved during the period. They include the successful negotiation of a 26 million So. Sh. credit with the International Development Association to finance important developments in Secondary, Technical, and Agricultural Education and Teacher Training; approval in principle of two requests to the U.N.D.P. for technical assistance in support of these schemes and the conclusion of bilateral agreements with friendly Governments for the construction of a number of additional secondary schools and one new intermediate school.

The plan also provides for immediate action for giving written form to the Somali Language, so that it may be used



Poor students get a well-balanced diet in boarding schools.

as a medium of instruction during the early stages of formal education and, more important still, as a means of reducing the high rate of illiteracy among the mass of the people. The plan also provides not only for considerable expansion in the field of Primary Education (450 new classrooms) but also for the overhauling of over 100 existing schools and the provision of new furniture. Provision is also made for improving the facilities of the National Museum, and of the National Library. In the field of higher education a National University capable of preparing students for degrees has now been finally established and the scope of its academics studies will be gradually enlarged. Considerable attention is being paid to the needs of school children in the field of recreation and in all these activities the spirit of public service by young people is being strongly emphasized. Finally the unification of the whole system of education as well as its continued expansion will call for radical changes in the organisation of the Ministry of Education, so that it will be able to discharge all its functions with greater speed and efficiency.

Particular mention may be made of the following topics in which notable progress has been made during the past year:—

(a) *Educational Expansion:* The first year of the Revolution was characterized by the expansion of facilities for intermediate education, where enrolments increased from 10,000 to 14,000. In the second year greater emphasis was placed on the expansion of secondary education, so that over the 2 year period enrolment rose from 3,000 to 5,000. Expansion of elementary education which was deliberately held back during the early years of unification was again resumed, revealing a growth from 23,000 to nearly 26,000. Much of this may be attributed to the success of the self-help schemes operating throughout the country. During the past year no less than 111 new elementary classrooms and 70 Intermediate classrooms were constructed in 38 different localities throughout the country.

In pursuance of the policy of providing secondary education in all the regions of the country, 8 new secondary schools were completed during the year providing accommodation for 2160 pupils. By the end of the year it is hoped that the

EMPHASIS ON ADULT EDUCATION

construction of further 3 secondary schools to accommodate 960 pupils will be under way.

Another important matter which has been tackled with vigour during the year has been the problem of school maintenance. For some years this matter has been so neglected that many classrooms and even whole schools have become dilapidated and unfit for use. Regular programmes of maintenance have now been included in the development plan. The reorganisation of Self-Help Schemes on a firm and realistic basis is likely to ensure that these programmes will be carried out with reasonable efficiency and much progress have already been made in the past year.

(b) *Curriculum Development.*

The preparation of a new curriculum to suit a unified national education system has been occupying the attention of the Curriculum Office of the Ministry since 1965. The new system was being followed in all grades of elementary & intermediate schools by 1969/70, and new syllabi were introduced at the secondary level in 1970/71. The supply of textbooks at all levels to suit these new syllabi has not unfortunately kept pace with the gradual change-over. Very great efforts have been made during the past year to remedy these dificiencies & the following is a list of the books which are either available now or will be in the near future. Most of these texts must be regarded as experimental at this stage and will be subject to constant evaluation—revision, in the light of practical experience.

Elementary Level

English Course	—	Grades II, III & IV
Arithmetic	—	Grades III & IV

Intermediate Level

Arabic	—	Grades V, VII & VIII
	—	Grades VI (by Jan. 1972)
English	—	*Grades VII & VIII*
Mathematics	—	*Grades VII & VIII* *Grades V & VI (by Jan. 1972)*
Geography	—	*Grades VII & VIII* *Grades V & VI (by Jan. 1972)* *Also a new Attas for Somalia.*
History	—	*Grades VII & VIII* *Grades V & VI (by Jan. 1972)*
Science	—	*Grades VII & VIII* *Grades V & VI (by Jan. 1972)*
Civics		*Teachers hand book for all grades. Pupils' books Grades V & VII (by Jan. 1972)* *A book for Grades VII geared to new political Situation.*

(c) *The Somali Language.*

During most of this year a special committee has been urgently studying the problem of writing the Somali language. The Committee has been preparing material in Somali with particular reference to history and local traditions which will be of value for future textbooks for schools. The Committee is expected shortly to report to the Government and it is hoped that a decision will then be taken on the type of script which will be formally adopted for the writing of the language. The enormous possibilities that could then

MANY MORE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

ensure particularly in the field of adult education and mass communications have already been touched upon in the final paragraph of part I of this chapter.

(d) *Youth Activities.*

One important aspect of educational reform which figures prominently in the current STDP is the provision of practical facilities in schools in the form of Science rooms for girls. An equally important decision is one which places increased emphasis on games, physical education and other out of school activities which are designed to make young people more keenly aware of their responsibilities in a modern socialist state. To this end a number of important projects were undertaken and completed by the Ministry. In co-operation with the Public Relation Office, during the National Campaign of Labour Month (June 1971). These included the laying out of five volley-ball and basket ball courts on five school sites and the preparation of three football pitches on other school sites. In addition solid block wall fences were constructed at several school sites greatly improving the amenities of these schools.

A permanent Youth Camp was established at El-Mugne near Merca where successive groups of students may enjoy a healthy open-air course of training, which is designed to inculcate a spirt of adventure self-reliance and public service. In Mogadiscio, where facilities for organised games and athletics have long been inadequate, a significant programme of works was carried out.

Steps have also been taken to develop organised inter-school, inter-Regional & national sports and games competitions for youth. In line with this new policy of developing physical fitness which goes hand in hand with a healthy national spirit, arrangements are in hand for the provision of increased supplies of sports equipment to schools and also of musical instruments to encourage the formation of school bands as an important part of out-of-school activities.

Training Courses.

Now that the academic year has been unified throughout the country and all teachers and principals are available at the same time during school holidays, it has been possible this year to conduct centralised courses for teachers, headmasters, principals, Regional Education Officers and Inspectors on a large scale. One of the important objects of these courses has been to give a new orientation to teachers on the wider role which they will be expected to play in the life of the communities in which they live.

Jaalle M. Y. Weirah (1943, Kandala)
Appointed State Secretary for Finance
at the end of July 1971.

SECRETARY FOR FINANCE STRIKES HOPEFUL NOTE FOR THE FUTURE

Q.: What are the Economic prospects of the country?

A.: Defining the economic prospects of a country is a value judgment and as such rather personal and subjective unless it is based on a comprehensive analysis.

Economic problem never constitutes independent factors that indicate by themselves the laws of their development. On the contrary they themselves are the result of socio political developments.

This may irritate certain technocrats, but it is an indisputable fact that political decisions are the catalyst that brings about certain economic results. One could state that one is the cause and the other effect.

One always comes across the words « underdevelopment » and « Developing » with regard to African, Latin American and Asian countries. This refers to the economics of these continents. The fact of the matter is that underdevelopment is primarily wholly political.

Economic backwardness is a natural consequence. This is historically proven by the socialist revolution in the USSR and the People's Republic of China.

Taking the more political consciousness of our people, the veritable renaisance that had taken place in our country since the 1969 revolution, as an indicator, all historical procedents confirm any belief that the economic prospects

WE WILL SOON LEAVE BEHIND US THE YEARS OF DEBT AND ANXIETY'

of the country are very bright.

Given the right political and social decisions being taken by the revolutionary leadership coupled with the mass determination shown by our people, we cannot fail to attain our aim — self-sufficiency.

The first step that we have taken towards the attainment of this goal, the only road to self-sufficiency ,given our present historical situation, is Socialism. This simply means the joining of hands on the parts of the whole population, and an equal sharing of the fruits of this joint effort. We aim to do this and we are doing it.

Q.: Is it possible to show in figures a comparison in the general position now and before the revolution?

A.: The Revenue has increased by 6/5% & 19/5% respectively in 1970 and 1971 compared to the 1969 collection.

In 1970 the net Foreign Exchange reserve increased by over 100 per cent ,and by more than 70% in the first six months of 1971.

The profits made by the nationalized agencies increased by 20% to 30%, in comparison with those of say 1969, thanks to the efforts and determination of our workers to strengthen and uphold the tenets of our revolution.

Q.: What means can be used to increase Revenue?

A.: Many steps can be taken and have been taken to increase revenue e.g.

(a) The increasing & encouragment of internal production.

(b) The rationalizing of our taxation system and

(c) The curbing of unnecessary and non productive expenditure.

Our farmers have now credit facilities that were denied them before, and their productive potential has increased tenfold. Moreover, by wholly taking over the purchase and sale of cereals the Government has eliminated the parasitical middlemen and black-marketeers that for decades exploited the toiling and poor farmers.

Our taxation system in its present form is not geared towards our needs **nor** does it conform to our revolutionary policies. It is a colonial heritage and can not serve as an instrument that could fulfil the objectives that we aim to achieve, namely an equitable and just distribution of Income.

The present fiscal system will be gradually replaced with new methods of taxations.

Our society has been molded by propaganda and the infiltration of colonial cultures into a consumer society heedless of any moral or material contribution towards the future development of our country, by saving and hence investing their resources.

GOVERNMENT PLANS SPEED SOUND ECONOMY

Our girls want to keep up with the fashion trends of the Western Capitals, the young banker is after the latest sportscars, and our civil servants spend more time bemoaning the prerogatives exercised by the colonial rules that they inherited but are unable to hold onto now. This is in essence what is meant by UNDER — DEVELOPMENT — loosing light of ones priorities and responsibilities.

The masses, the workers, soldiers and students have rallied to our revolutionary aims. But there are still some small pockets of reaction that have failed to keep in step with the people. If history is to guide, it won't be long before they are flushed out.

This Ministry is on the process of formulating new policies that will reflect our socialist aims. The importation of luxury items will be discouraged, and the production of the necessities of the masses will be incouraged and kept in the fore front of our policies.

Q.: To what extent have the recently nationalised institutions contributed the national economy?

A.: The nationalization of the banks and other agencies already has a positive effect on the economy. The obvious increase in the efficiency and productivy of these agencies has given the lie to the myth that we cannot run our affairs. We knew we could run them and we are running them better than anybody and the facts are there for anyone to see.

Q.: In the past a considerable amount of the budget had to be made up from outside sources. Is this deficiency now being reduced and how much?

A.: We did receive a certain amount of Budgetary aid from outside sources. This is not however as alarming as you might believe. Any deficit financing that is undertaken from now on will be on the Development front, that is, not on the recent Budget

Development Aid, and Domestic borrowing, when the economy of the country is development oriented, are seeds that are sown. There are certain aids without which we can do.

This, you will see, reflected in the 1970/1971 budgets. Deficit financing is no longer the picking of the tap for the luxury trips and expensive villas of opulent politicians. The repayment of loans will from now onwards be met from the fruits generated by these loans. Deficit in the Ordinary Budget will no longer be tolerated and the password is still Self-Relience.

QUESTIONS submitted to Jalle Mohamoud Yusuf Weirah.
Secretary of State for Finance.

INFORMATION

General Sales Agents for East African Airways, Aeroflot Ground Handling Agents for Alitalia Aeroflot, Alyemda East African Arways, United Arab Airlines and other charter operators.
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For Information Contact our Booking Office Situate at the Ground Floor SHEBELE HOTEL, Tel. 22.74 and Tel. 3819 for charter services.
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Official Address: Ex - Parliament Square P. O. Box 726 Mogadiscio.

SOMALI AIRLINES

Our beloved leader Jaaile Gen. Mohamed Siad Barre, President. of the SRC

THE NEW ERA CONGRATULATES THE PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE SRC AND THE SOMALI PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2nd ANNIVERSARY OF 21st OCTOBER REVOLUTION

● Developing City